County (HIPAA) Issues Workgroup Meeting Notes 2/5/2001

Introductions

There was an approved consensus on formalizing the group charter. The draft charter prepared by LA County was approved.

Web site for counties

The counties would like to see a web site / bulletin board area where they could go to share information, ask questions and develop a network with other counties and eventually have a link on the HIPAA web page.

Counties were asked to talk to the various associations to see if someone would volunteer a site the group could use.

Counties should be reading the regulations and identifying the programs requiring modifications.

- There were several "What if...." type of questions from the counties. What if a transaction being shared is of this type or that type...??? Suggestion: counties should develop a local project team to help with the brainstorming, budgeting, and prioritizing the HIPAA tasks.
- Maybe the counties could come up with a checklist of Business Processes or perhaps do a survey to help determine/define their programs needing HIPAA attention. Counties were encouraged to share with the committee any HIPAA assessment/remediation tools being developed at the local level.
- Counties should try to break HIPAA into manageable chunks.
- DHS, at the current time, can not dedicate staff to the counties. However, DHS is developing tools and will be putting on some seminars [training the trainers] to help the counties get up to speed.
- At the 02/26 meeting -- Judy will have Leanne and Mary give a presentation on HIPAA that should help clear up some questions and concerns that the counties might be having.
- Questions can be sent to Ray Reis or Mike McDaniel who will forward them to Leanne.
- One issue known for sure is that upstream/downstream data will effect almost everybody.